

# THE ARGENTINE TRIO

This tune celebrates my friendship with Rudy Cipolla, who wrote beautiful traditional Italian melodies and lived in San Francisco for most of his (nearly) 100 years. Rudy learned to play the mandolin as a young boy in his father's barber shop in Calabria, Italy. His family moved to the USA in 1908 and settled in Portland, Oregon. In 1931 he moved to San Francisco and formed The Argentine Trio, playing mandocello. I first met Rudy in 1974 through our mutual student and friend, Bob Bruen. He owned and operated The Book Nook, where he held court daily, composing his amazing music and selling everything from candy to "girlie" magazines. I ultimately produced his first LP. *The World of Rudy Cipolla* for Rounder Records when he was 83, and his second recording project, *Portrait of an American Original* for Acoustic Disc, when Rudy was 95!

This musical portrait, featured on *Dawgnation*, is a duet which I recorded with my Argentine guitarist, Enrique Coria. It became a trio with the addition of Enrique whistling the final statement of the melod.



*Rudy Cipolla and his Argentine Trio*

## Recordings —

**DAWGNATION** - David Grisman Quintet  
*Acoustic Disc* - ACD-49